

# Vermont Mental Health Futures Project: Burlington Site Review Group



## Site Review Meetings

August 22

Additional meetings on  
September 12 and 26, 2006  
Agency of Human Services  
Fletcher Allen Health Care



*In alliance with*  
**The University of Vermont**

# Burlington Site Review Work Group

- Goal: Examine the universe of siting options on Fletcher Allen's Medical Center Campus for new inpatient program
- Meetings on Tuesdays 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Memorial Lounge, Waterman Bldg., UVM
  - Additional meetings on September 12, 26
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# **Overview of hospital design standards for inpatient psychiatric units and general requirements: What makes a modern hospital?**

*Per Guidelines for Design and Construction of Hospital and Health Care Facilities published by the American Institute of Architects (AIA), Academy of Architecture for Health*

- **Patient room size**
- **Toilet in each room**
- **Window in each patient room**
- **Hand washing facilities**
- **Laundry facilities**
- **Social spaces: quiet and noisy**
- **Multi-purpose, group and family rooms**
- **Exam, treatment and consultation rooms**
- **Medication rooms**
- **Separation of clean and dirty work areas/storage**
- **Nurse's station: Orientation to maintain unit observation and security**
- **Bed configuration**
- **Ventilation, heating and air-conditioning standards**
- **Security and safety features**

# Factors Driving Program Space Requirements

- Bed Capacity: Space per Bed
- Nursing and Care Model: Number of Nursing Units, Unit Configuration and Bed Array (single vs. double occupancy)
- Floor Plate: Program Proximity, Affinities and Adjacencies
- Free Standing facility requires more square feet per bed

# Our Current Utilization and Building Status

- Our nursing units are operating at or near peak capacity
- We are using all available, suitable hospital space
- Our inpatient buildings (excluding IPU) were constructed between 1941 and 1983
- Our inpatient facilities are constrained due to a lack of space.
- Most patient rooms are double occupancy (infection control and privacy issues)
- All available inpatient space is being fully utilized.
- Buildings currently used for support space and physician offices are not suitable for hospital occupancy and cannot be used for inpatient care
- Major construction within the inpatient areas of the hospital would severely impact patient care and be disruptive to patients
- Moving or displacing current in-patient units and hospital functions would be a detriment to our quality of care
- The Ambulatory Care Center is designed as an outpatient facility and cannot support an inpatient occupancy

# What About Using Other space: Patrick, Smith, Shepardson Shell Space?

- **Patrick and Smith cannot accommodate nor meet current inpatient care facility standards:**
  - Life Safety Code Requirements
  - AIA Standards\*
  - Required floor plate size and nursing unit layout requirements
  - FAHC has decanted inpatient occupancies from these building as we did with Brown and Fletcher buildings
- **The Shepardson Building is not adequate to house the proposed program:**
  - Adjoining Acute Care and Inpatient programs limit any possible expansion
  - Insufficient space, window requirements preclude use as inpatient facilities

\**Guidelines for Design and Construction of Hospital and Health Care Facilities published by the American Institute of Architects (AIA), Academy of Architecture for Health*

# **Desirable site attributes that will be the best for the patients, be sensitive to our surroundings and deliver high quality services efficiently**

- Direct physical connection to Fletcher Allen's other Patient Care, Medical and Support Services.
- Conformance to the ICO and MOU agreements
- Consume the least amount of “green space”
- Allow for public and patient access to and from Fletcher Allen
- Create the least amount of parking and transportation impacts
- Create the least amount of disruptions (during construction) on patient access, safety and on-going operations
- Preserves Fletcher Allen's future development capacity
- Provides a safe and secure environment for patients, visitors, staff and the community